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(56) Documents Cited

GB 2187169 A    GB 2104048 A    GB 1005452 A  
GB 0950989 A    EP 0455048 A1    EP 0430013 A1  
US 4108350 A

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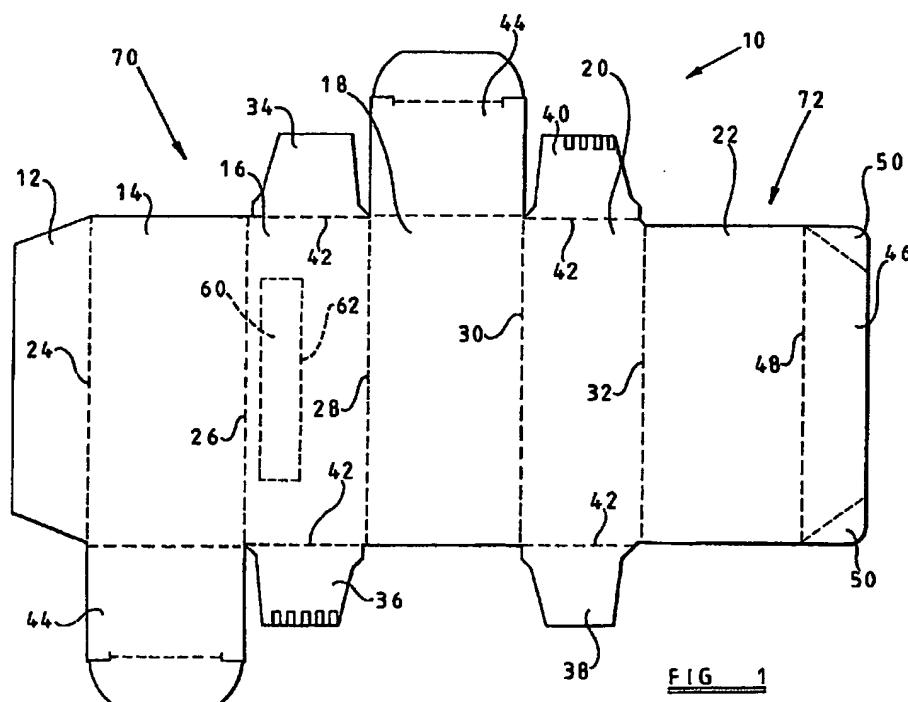
(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition M) B8P PAX PB1 PK3 PP  
INT CL<sup>5</sup> B65D 5/42

Online database:WPI

## (54) Carton blank

(57) A carton blank 10 has a body portion (70) and an extension portion (72). The body portion has a number of rectangular panels (12, 14, 16, 18, 20) adapted to be folded about fold lines (24, 26, 28, 30) to form a carton of rectangular cross-section. The extension portion comprises two additional panels (22, 46) which are adapted to be folded about fold lines (32, 48) over the outer surface of panels (14, 16) of the carton. Two of the panels (16, 46) have a releasable adhesive which allows the panel (46) to be detached from the carton body portion and to be laid flat with panel (22), enabling access to information printed on these panels.



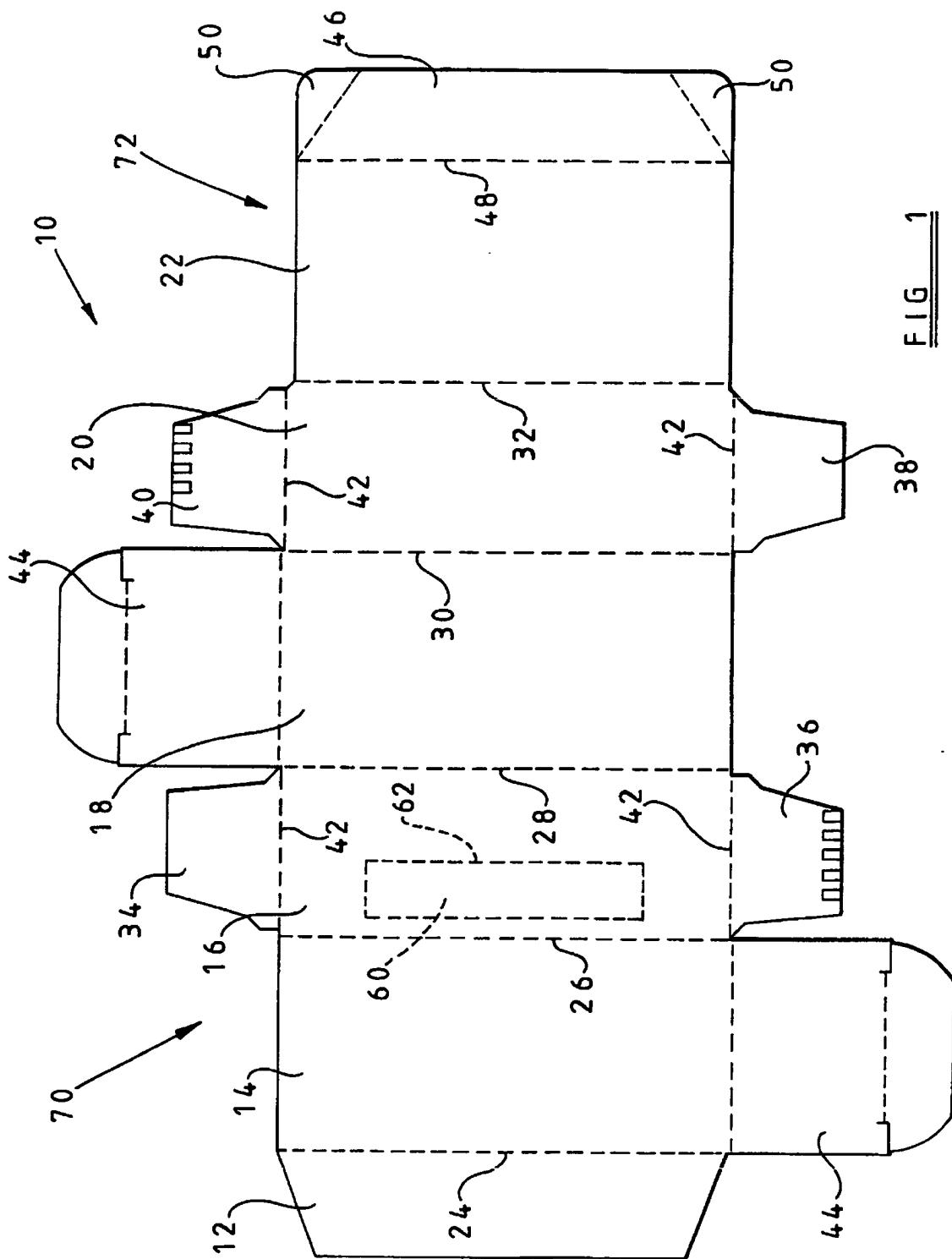
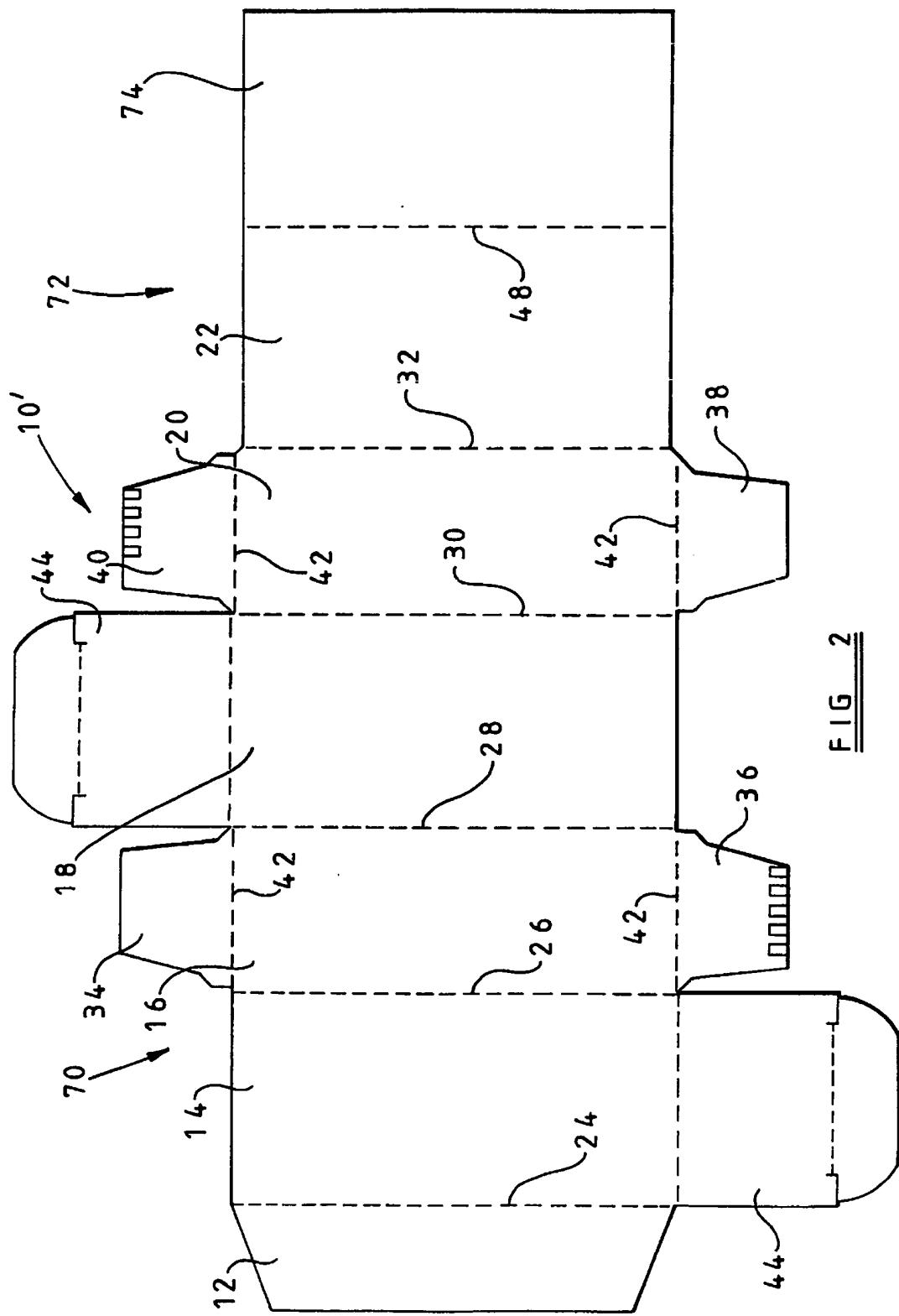


FIG 1



Title: Carton Blank

The present invention relates to packaging.

Medicine sold in a carton is normally accompanied by an information sheet explaining how to use the medicine. Placing the medicine and the information sheet in the carton requires relatively complicated machinery. An alternative way of providing instructions is by printing on the inside surface of the carton. However, in order to read these it is necessary to open the carton and lay it flat which of course prevents its further use.

The present invention seeks to provide an improved carton.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a carton blank having a body portion and an extension portion divided by a plurality of fold lines into a plurality of generally rectangular panels, wherein:

said body portion comprises first and second end panels at respective ends of said body portion and a number of intermediate panels therebetween;

said extension portion comprises at least one extension panel;

said first and second end panels are adapted to be secured to one another to form a tubular carton having an inner surface and an outer surface;

and said extension panel is adapted to be releasably secured to another of the carton panels, said extension panel being adapted to receive information printed thereon.

The present invention also provides a carton formed from a blank according to the immediately preceding paragraph, said carton having information printed on an inner surface thereof.

The present invention is further described hereinafter, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which like parts are given like numbers and:

Figure 1 illustrates a first preferred form of carton blank according to the present invention; and

Figure 2 illustrates a second preferred form of carton blank according to the present invention.

Referring to Figure 1, this shows a carton blank 10 with a body portion 70 having three intermediate side panels 14 to 18 and first and second end panels 12, 20. These are generally of rectangular shape and are joined along their longer side edges by fold lines 24 to 30. The arrangement is such that when folded about these fold lines, panel 12 lies underneath panel 20 to form a carton of substantially rectangular cross-section.

The carton blank 10 also has an extension portion 72 which comprises two further panels 22, 46 of generally rectangular shape which are joined along their longer side edges and to panel 20 by fold lines 32 and 48.

Each panel 16 and 20 has respective tongues 34 to 40 at each end which fold along fold lines 42 to cover the open ends of the carton formed by the blank whilst panels 14 and 16 have end flaps 44 which close the ends of the carton in the normal manner.

The panel 46 conveniently has end portions 50 which are connected to the body of the panel by fold lines.

To form a carton from the carton blank 10, the panels 12 to 46 are folded about their fold lines 24 to 48 with the panels 12 and 14 folding under the panels 20 and 22 such that fold line 24 lies immediately under the fold line 32. The panel 12 is glued to panel 20 to form the closed carton. The panel 46 is also folded about the fold line 48 and glued to an area 60 on the panel 16.

After insertion of the medicine the ends of the carton are closed by the tongues 34 to 40 and flaps 44.

The adjacent surfaces of panels 14 and 22 of the carton material, on both sides, are treated so that they can easily be printed on and instructions for the use of the medicine to be packaged in the container is printed on the inside surface of panel 22 and on the outside surface of panel 14 of the carton blank 10, conveniently during manufacture of the blanks.

The adhesive that is used to secure the panel 46 to the panel 16 is preferably a releasable adhesive to allow re-sealing of panel 46 to panel 16.

In use, in order to read the instructions, a user separates the panel 46 from the panel 16 by placing a finger underneath one of the portions 50 to raise it and pulling the panel 46 away from the panel 16, allowing the panel 22 to be opened away from panel 14, and enabling the instructions to be read from the surfaces of the panels 14 and 22. This enables instructions to be provided in a simple and easy manner without the user having to destroy the packaging in order to read them.

Once the instructions have been read panel 46 can be re-sealed to panel 16.

As an alternative to the use of a releasable adhesive, an area 60 may be formed on the outer surface of panel 16 by cutting through the surface of the panel 16 along the periphery 62 of the area 60 to allow the surface layer at 60 to be separate from the body of the panel 16 by tearing. In this case a releasable adhesive is not required.

Although Figure 1 shows the panel 46 as being of a size to cover only a portion of the panel 16, the panel 46 may be a full size panel which covers substantially the whole of panel 16. Where a releasable adhesive is used, it is provided along the edge

region of the panel 46 and on the panel 16 alongside the fold line 28. Where the area 60 is provided it lies adjacent the fold line 28 and the carton provides four surfaces for the printing of instructions, i.e. the outer surfaces of panels 14 and 16 and the inner surfaces of panels 22 and 46.

In a further modification of the invention, panel 46 may be omitted and panel 22 may form the end, sealing flap. In this case, where area 60 is provided it is formed on panel 14 adjacent the fold line 26 and the carton provides two surfaces, those of panels 14 and 22, for the printing of instructions.

Figure 2 shows a carton blank similar to that of figure 1 with panel 46 replaced by a larger panel 74. In this embodiment, the width of the panel 74 is slightly less than that of panel 22 to allow panel 74 to be folded along fold line 48 back onto panel 22. A releasable adhesive may be provided along the free longitudinal edge region of panel 74 and the cooperating region of panel 22 to hold the two panels together in a folded position. In turn, the combined panels 22 and 74 may be folded over and secured to panel 14, again by releasable adhesive, such that the three panels 14, 22 and 74 effectively form one side wall of the closed carton. All but the exposed outer surface of these three panels are conveniently provided with information and instructions regarding use of the contents of the carton. In their folded position, panel 74 may be folded between panels 14 and 22. Alternatively, the panels may be folded in a concertina manner with panel 22 lying between panels 14 and 74. It will also be appreciated that whilst Figure 2 shows the use of two panels 22 and 74 forming the extension portion, this number may be varied and three or more such panels may be provided.

The above-described carton blanks provide a relatively large area on which instructions and information can be printed, without the necessity of having an over-large carton or destroying the carton on opening.

CLAIMS

1. A carton blank having a body portion and an extension portion divided by a plurality of fold lines into a plurality of generally rectangular panels, wherein:

said body portion comprises first and second end panels at respective ends of said body portion and a number of intermediate panels therebetween;

said extension portion comprises at least one extension panel;

said first and second end panels are adapted to be secured to one another to form a tubular carton having an inner surface and an outer surface;

and said extension panel is adapted to be releasably secured to another of the carton panels, said extension panel being adapted to receive information printed thereon.

2. A carton blank as claimed in claim 1 wherein said extension portion comprises a plurality of extension panels adapted to be folded against one or more panels of said body portion and to be releasably secured thereto, said extension panels being adapted to receive information printed thereon.
3. A carton blank as claimed in claim 1 wherein said extension portion comprises a plurality of extension panels adapted to be folded against one another and to be releasably secured together, said extension panels being adapted to receive information printed thereon.
4. A carton blank as claimed in claim 3 wherein said extension panels are adapted to be releasably secured against an adjacent one of said panels of said body portion.

5. A carton blank substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Figure 1 or Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings.
6. A carton formed from a blank according to any of the preceding claims.
7. A carton as claimed in claim 6 having information printed on a surface of an extension panel thereof.

**Patents Act 1977**  
**Examiner's report to the Comptroller under Section 17**  
**(I. Search report)**

Application number  
**GB 9414911.9**

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**Relevant Technical Fields**

(i) UK Cl (Ed.M)      B8P (PP, PBI, PAX, PK3)  
(ii) Int Cl (Ed.5)      B65D 5/42

Search Examiner  
**MIKE HENDERSON**

Date of completion of Search  
**24 AUGUST 1994**

**Databases (see below)**

(i) UK Patent Office collections of GB, EP, WO and US patent specifications.

(ii) **ONLINE DATABASE: WPI**

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of Claims :-  
**1-7**

**Categories of documents**

X:	Document indicating lack of novelty or of inventive step.	P:	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of the present application.
Y:	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of the same category.	E:	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of the present application.
A:	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.	&:	Member of the same patent family; corresponding document.

Category	Identity of document and relevant passages		Relevant to claim(s)
X	GB 2187169 A	(TAYLOWE LTD) whole specification relevant	1, 6, 7
X	GB 2104048 A	(VIBIXA LTD) whole specification relevant	1, 6, 7
X	GB 1005452	(VILLAUME) whole specification relevant	1, 2, 6, 7
X	GB 950989	(MERCK & CO INC) whole specification relevant	1, 2, 6, 7
X	EP 0455048 A1	(GI.BI.EFFE. S.R.L) whole specification relevant	1, 6, 7
X	EP 0430013 A1	(GRAFICHE EIKON SRL) whole specification relevant	1, 6, 7
X	US 4108350	(FORBES) whole specification relevant	1, 6, 7

**Databases:** The UK Patent Office database comprises classified collections of GB, EP, WO and US patent specifications as outlined periodically in the Official Journal (Patents). The on-line databases considered for search are also listed periodically in the Official Journal (Patents).